

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 1 has been amended to define more clearly over the prior art of record. More particularly, claim 1 has been amended to conform to the embodiment of Figure 3, which is described at page 13. Claims 2 and 8 have been amended to address informalities noted by the examiner.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected as anticipated by Kokubu JP 61-85028. To the extent that this reference would be applied against claim 1 as presently amended, such a rejection is traversed for the reasons following.

Kokubu discloses a stator having a core formed by a stack of sheet metal stampings having radially undercut anchoring elements around a central opening, and a yoke of refractory resin in the opening. The stampings are bolted together with rivets 8 and are strictly congruent. The stack does not include first and second groups of stampings with circumferentially offset anchoring elements, and intermediate spaces separating the anchoring elements between each of the first and second groups., where the intermediate spaces are occupied by structure of a hub.

In view of the distinctions of claim 1 as amended over Kokubu, it is not deemed necessary to address the rejections of dependent claims 9-11 at this time.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected as obvious over Raschbichler US 4,665,329. To the extent that this reference would be applied against claim 1 as presently amended, such a rejection is traversed for the reasons following.

Raschbichler discloses a linear stator having a core formed by a stack of sheet stampings which are strictly congruent. Here too there is no suggestion of breaking the stack into first and second groups of stampings wherein the anchoring elements of the

first group are offset from the anchoring elements of the second group. Here too there is no disclosure of intermediate spaces which are filled with structure of a hub which is cast in place. The cutouts 23 of Raschbischler are intended to receive connecting elements for adjacent bundles of stampings. The anchoring elements do not surround a central opening, and there is no hub or any other structure which is cast in place. Raschbichler therefore does not suggest several important elements of applicants' invention as claimed.

The claims as amended being definite and patentably distinguishable from the art of record, withdrawal of the rejections and early allowance are solicited. If any objections remain, a call to the undersigned is requested.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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